

Message Text

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TO USMISSION NATO

INFO USNMR SHAPE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 103344

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: DPC AGENDA FOR MAY 5

REF: USNATO 2434

I. DRAFT AGENDA FOR MEETING OF THE DPC IN MINISTERIAL
SESSION. NO FURTHER GUIDANCE.

II. MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. (A) WE FIND OVERALL DOCUMENT
RESPONSIVE TO WISHES OF MINISTERS AND SUITABLE FOR
THEIR USE IN GUIDING NATO DEFENSE PLANNING. DRAFT
IS PARTICULARLY HELPFUL IN ITS INCORPORATION OF A
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LONG-RANGE CONCEPT AND IN ITS BROAD COVERAGE. HOWEVER,

WE HAVE DIFFICULTY WITH PARA 22 IN THE WARNING OF WAR SECTION.

(B) WE ARE CONCERNED THAT PARA 22 IN ITS CURRENT FORM COULD BE MISINTERPRETED AS ESTABLISHING A BASE CASE OF A SPECIFIC WARNING TIME PERIOD FOR NATO PLANNING. IN US VIEW NATO MUST PREPARE FOR A RANGE OF POSSIBLE SITUATIONS.

(C) HENCE, AT DPC MEETING OF MAY 5, YOU SHOULD SEEK TO REPLACE PARAS 22 AND 23 (LATTER IS LOGICALLY RELATED TO PARA 22) WITH LANGUAGE REFERRING TO THE TREATMENT OF WARNING OF WAR IN PART I, SECTION 6 OF MC 161/75. IF AGREEMENT CANNOT BE READILY WORKED OUT AT DPC LEVEL, MATTER COULD BE REFERRED BACK TO DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR URGENT HANDLING.

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